

# Survey Results

Land & Water Project  
Kickoff Meeting  
March 3, 2008

## Survey Questions

1. Top 3-4 threats to NH water resources?
2. Which programs present most promising opportunities for better alignment?
3. What changes needed in those programs?
4. Barriers to implementing those changes?
5. Other suggestions?

## Survey: Top Threats

- 1 – Impacts of development - *surface waters* (57)
  - Hydrology (31)
  - Water quality (26)
- 2 – Impacts of development – *groundwater* (38)
  - Inappropriate land uses
    - Aquifers (19)
    - Existing wells (9)
  - Availability of future well sites (10)
- 3 – Impacts of withdrawals (33)

## Growth or Land Use Change?

- *Population growth* (13)
- *Impacts of inappropriate land uses*
  - Existing wells (9)
  - Aquifers (19)
- *Types of land use*
  - *Shoreland development* (7)
  - *Road salt* (8)

## Survey: Most Promising Programs - Potential for Better Alignment of Goals

- Water Supply Land Conservation Grants (17)
- LCHIP (9)
- Other land conservation programs (11)
- OEP (MRPA & HCPP) (8)
- RPCs and REPP (10)
- Watershed Assistance and NPS-319 (14)
- Surface Water Quality Assessment (11)
- Rivers MPP and LRACs (8)
- Local SWP (grants) (11)
- Watershed rules (7)
- Alteration of Terrain (10)
- Shoreland Protection (8)
  - + Wetlands (6)

## Survey: Barriers to Improvement

- Resources (\$/staff)
- Municipal officials
  - Lack of "buy-in"
  - Turnover
  - Concern re loss of local control to watershed
  - ZBA decisions
- Reluctance to limit land development
  - Developers
  - Legislators
- Information/knowledge
  - Cumulative effects
  - Current climate, hydrology
  - Aquifer mapping
  - Public understanding
- Bureaucracy reluctant to work across programmatic boundaries
- Studies and plans not implemented with effective programs

## Survey: Suggested Changes

- More \$/staff
  - Land conservation
    - Maximize leveraging of federal funds
  - Alteration of Terrain
  - RPCs (incl. training)
- Outreach to municipalities
  - Development BMPs & stormwater mgmt.
  - Threats to water supply
  - LU-WQ connection
- State LU controls
  - Gas stations
  - Wetlands
  - Impervious surfaces
  - Shoreland protection
  - Enforceable Ag BMPs
  - Consistent enforcement
- Monitoring
- Partnerships
- Reorganize to reduce # of programs, improve coordination

## Survey: Other Suggestions

- Model ordinances and regulations
  - Require local measures
- Use technology to better coordinate with towns
- Staff who work across programs/agencies
- Start with Sustainability Initiative
- Revegetate shoreland
- Model a SWP fund after Petroleum Reimbursement Fund
- Pass HB 1581 to enable stormwater utilities